

## ***DIMENSIONS OF INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN MADHAYAPRADESH***

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### **Abstract**

*Sectoral and regional development is synonymous to progress. Equilibrium between the sectors as well as the regions is essential for the growth as well as development. At times the latter may be lagging and it may not be due to slower rates of growth of a region rather it may be a consequence of a tardy development in agriculture, irrigation, power, industry or infrastructure. In some sectors like industry or agriculture localized development may be inevitable because of the availability and utilization of resources. Development of infrastructure can be more balanced, rather imbalances in infrastructure is a major reason for the lopsided development of the Country. This sector of regional development is the cause as well as the effect of reducing imbalances in development. The present paper examines the spatial pattern of development in the sub sectors of infrastructure and also in its composite development. It also investigates the association between the sub sectors and infrastructural development of Madhya Pradesh for the year 2005.*

*19 indicators related to infrastructure are chosen for the current study. Transport and communication, power, education and health are the sub sectors of infrastructural development and these have been considered here. Inter district variations in them have been studied. The relationship of these with the total infrastructural development is also highlighted. A multi dimensional facet of the variables is sought with the help of composite index.*

*Compactness in the levels of development is noticed in power and health sub sectors. The districts in the south-west of the state are comparatively more developed than those on the north-east. The eastern part of Madhya Pradesh adjoins the less developed detached State of Chattisgarh. This continuity is missing in the education and transport and communication sectors. Bhopal, the capital city of Madhya Pradesh and its adjacent district reflect a higher level of development. Impact of higher learning institutions is clearly visible and districts of Gwalior, Ujjain, Sagar, Jabalpur and Rewa are educationally more developed. In terms of transport and*

*communication scattered pattern of development is reflected. Pockets of developed and less developed districts have emerged in the sector of infrastructure. The districts on the north, south-west and central Madhya Pradesh are more developed. These districts are interspersed by less developed pockets. The tribal districts of Jhabua and Dhar reveal a poor condition.*

*Transport and Communication followed by Education have shown the significant association with infrastructural development. This association is moderate with health indicators and least in terms of power sector.*

*The findings of the paper suggest the identification of inter sectoral and inter district imbalances in infrastructural development.*